

NEW YORK CHAPTER

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

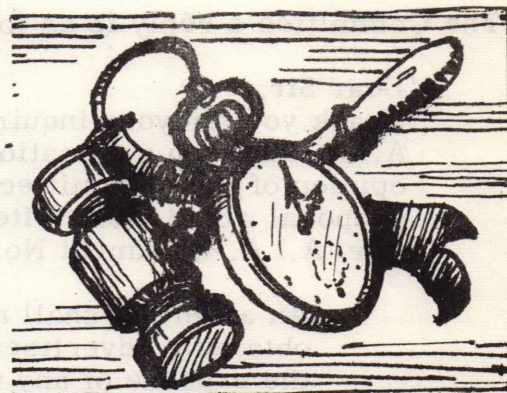
OCULUS

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SEASON'S OPENER

Chapter President Hugh Ferriss has demonstrated, in addition to a fine sense of timing, a beautifully developed sense of time. The first meeting of the Chapter on Tuesday, March 14 ran briskly and ended promptly. It was distinguished by the attendance at the speakers' table of 12 former Chapter presidents whom the President has appointed an Advisory Committee in Extraordinary.

Guided by an eminently readable organization chart shown at large scale over the dias, Mr. Ferriss introduced the new Committee Chairmen who reported on their committee membership and projected activities. You will find these listed on page 4 of this issue. The Chapter welcomed the new Secretary, Richard Kimball, succeeding Harmon Goldstone, who was called to France on a government mission.



Mr. Ferriss emphasized that meetings are a general Chapter responsibility and that the Committee on Meetings (to revive the correct and historic terminology) may call not only on other committee men but on the membership at large to sparkplug the year's programs. His call for suggestions on agenda from the floor brought several interesting subjects before the attention of the Chapter.

Geoffrey Platt, introduced as Chairman of the Committee on Meetings, again emphasized the expandable character of this body. Anyone with an idea to contribute should consider himself a member pro tem. Following the suggestions already offered, Mr. Platt proposed these topics which, in addition to meetings sponsored by the Technical Committee could well make up the program for the season: Work of Younger Members, Civic Design, The Small House, Public Schools, Allied Arts, "Making Money For Clients", and a synthesis (remarkable if realized) of the two topics, Times Square and Historical Buildings. Looks like a good year!

MEMBERS' WORK FILE - A REMINDER

Completed folders for the Members' Work File are being received at a disappointingly slow rate. There is no registration fee for this File and the work of the Chapter office will be greatly facilitated when it is completed. It is up to you to decide how fully you wish to be represented in the File but we do want the File to be as complete and useful as possible. Please make every effort to fill out the folder and return it to the Chapter office. The scale or volume of a member's work is not important in this connection; our goal is complete representation.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE - BROCHURES

Among the recent inquiries made to the Professional Practice Committee, the following one from a Chapter member is of general interest:

"Gentlemen:

We have been approached by a publishing concern.... They propose to prepare a brochure for us, free of charge, which will show examples of our work. The magazine is published monthly, and has a price tag of fifteen dollars per year.... The financing of the magazine would be carried by advertisers.... contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers represented by the architect's work. I believe that the architect is expected to write a letter of introduction to the representative of this magazine, so that they can approach the various contractors and suppliers for advertising space. The arrangement is that the architect would be given approximately five hundred copies of their particular issue free of charge.

I'll be interested to know what the Committee on Ethics of the New York Chapter thinks of this procedure. I understand that it had been done on many occasions for various members of the A.I.A. I simply bring up the question to see what the attitude of the A.I.A. is on this point."

The Committee's reply is as follows:

"Dear Sir,

Thank you for your inquiry of September 3, 1952, concerning the A.I.A. stand on publication offers such as you describe. It is the opinion of this committee that your acceptance of the magazine's proposal would violate Item 8, Part II Mandatory Rules of the Institute, A.I.A. Document No. 330, which reads in part:

"An architect shall not take part nor give assistance in obtaining advertisements or other support toward meeting the expense of any publication illustrating his works, nor shall he permit others to solicit such advertising or other support in his name."

Very truly yours,

The Professional Practice Committee"

The Committee wishes further to report that while A.I.A. members have in the past participated in such enterprises, the problems growing out of their participation gave rise to Item 8, quoted above, which was adopted by The Institute at the Houston Convention, March 11-13, 1949.

LEGION OF HONOR AWARDS

It has been announced by the French ambassador to the United States, M. Henri Bonnet, that Ralph Walker and John C. B. Moore have been awarded the Legion of Honor by his government. The decoration carries with it the rank of Chevalier.

The awards were given in appreciation of the talent in design of the two architects. Mr. Walker's citation expresses gratitude for the constant friendship shown by him for France. Mr. Moore's citation is in recognition of the recently completed Carthage War Memorial at Tunis, French North Africa. Presentation of the awards will take place in the near future.

NEW BOOKS

Three new delightful books of interest to Chapter members have been issued recently by Reinhold. The first, **LETTERING ART IN MODERN USE** by Raymond Ballinger, is about the only available book on this subject that is both complete and attractive. The material, almost entirely in pictorial form, is invaluable to architects, engineers, draftsmen and anyone interested in design. The second volume is William J. Hennessey's **MODERN FURNISHINGS FOR THE HOME**. Covering pictures and descriptions of such items as chairs, tables, sofas, beds, desks, fabrics, storage and lighting facilities are plentiful plus a very handy list of addresses of designers and manufacturers. Lastly, for those who have often (or have not) considered the place of art in building design, Eleanor Bitterman has written the third book on our list, **ART IN MODERN ARCHITECTURE**. Murals, sculpture, plastic and stained and carved glass are among the subjects reviewed. Comments by the artists add a personal and colorful touch to the profusely illustrated text. Each of these volumes may well find a place in the architect's working library.

CODE MANUAL

The New York State Building Code Commission announces the publication of the **CODE MANUAL FOR THE STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE**. The commission has completed part of its study and has issued a building code for one and two family dwellings. It is their intention to issue a code eventually which will cover multiple dwellings and other types of construction. The State Building Code Commission has been empowered to develop a building code for communities which do not have one and do not have the facilities for research necessary to compile their own. In addition the State Code is indicating a trend toward a generally uniform one for those communities which have not been in a position to keep their building code up to date.

The Manual which sells for \$2 per copy (postage paid: checks or money orders to be made payable to the State Building Code Commission, 1740 Broadway, N. Y. 19) is a well illustrated, loose-leaf handbook prepared as a guide to the interpretation of the State Code. It is the first of its kind ever issued and has been correlated with the code section by section. In many ways the Manual can serve as a text and reference for architects. This volume is so designed as to receive future recommendations of a technical staff regarding the acceptance of new materials and methods of assembly.

Members are urged to study this progressive idea and stand behind the adoption of the code in any outlying community with which they are connected. Here for the first time is an opportunity to serve the communities with something which will protect them and unify their building regulations on an up to date basis.

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

The appointive committees for the current year are listed here, at their present state of completion, in recognition of the members who have undertaken the year's tasks ahead. The rolls are not closed. Chapter work abounds. Please call Mrs. Short and tell us what you would like to do in the coming season.

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES

To Architects Council:

Matthew Del Gaudio
Geoffrey Lawford

To N. Y. State Association:

Harry Prince
Daniel Schwartzman

To Fine Arts Federation:

(to 1953) Geoffrey Platt
John C. B. Moore
(to 1954) Raphael Hume
Howard P. Cross
(to 1955) Frank Shattuck
Eldredge Snyder

(Cont'd)

ADMISSIONS, Alonzo Clark*

Ronald Allwork George Sole
G. Harmon Gurney Lester Tichy
George Holderness

AWARDS, Morris Ketchum*

Robert Cutler Geoffrey Lawford

BRUNNER SCHOLARSHIP, L.B. La Farge*

Giorgio Cavaglieri Esmond Shaw
Thorne Sherwood Charles Nagel, Jr.

BY-LAWS, George A. Boehm*

CIVIC DESIGN, Walter Kilham, Jr.*

Geoffrey Platt Fred. Woodbridge
Philip Chu Francis McHugh
Fred. Frost, Jr.
and a Discussion Panel of 11

CIVIL DEFENSE, Hippolyte Kamenka*

Frederick Woodbridge
Bruno Funaro Robert Davison

CODES, Emil Szendy*

Frederick Genz Ben C. Bloch
Harry Rutkins John N. Linn

EDUCATION, Robert Hutchins*

Esmond Shaw Arthur Douglass
Leopold Arnaud Robert McLaughlin
Olindo Grossi

FEES AND CONTRACTS, Francis Keally*

William Hohausier Lathrop Douglass
Jonathan Butler Earl Lundin
Fred. Frost, Jr. Harold C. Bernhard

FIFTH AVE. ASS'N AWARD, Cameron Clark*

Philip Goodwin William Gehron

FINANCE, William Potter*

Ward Fenner Max Foley
F. B. Kirkbride - Counsel
Squires & Co. - Auditors

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS, Edgar Williams*

Leopold Arnaud Walker Cain
Cameron Clark Huson Jackson

HOUSING, Henry Churchill*

Alan Burnham Frank G. Lopez
John Callender John Rannels
G. H. Gurney William Vladeck

LE BRUN SCHOLARSHIP, Olindo Grossi*

Francis X. Gina Esmond Shaw
Maurice Salo J. Bruno Basil

LEGISLATIVE, Samuel Kurtz*

Richard Roth Emil Szendy
Ben C. Bloch Harry Rutkins
Tito di Vincenzo

MEETINGS, Geoffrey Platt*

Hugh Ferriss Daniel Schwartzman
Richard B. Snow Richard A. Kimball

MEMBERSHIP, Jedd S. Reisner*

Stanley Sharp Richard Brayton
(incomplete)

PUBLICATIONS, Richard B. Snow*

Jeffrey Aronin Robert Carson
Dickson McKenna Robert Hutchins
Fenwick Wall (advisory)

PUBLIC RELATIONS, Daniel Schwartzman*

Vincent Furno Louis Sinopoulos
John Jansson Roger Spross
James Hornbeck Geoffrey Lawford
Philip Bartlett

SMALL HOUSE, Mortimer Freehof*
and a Panel of 26

TECHNICAL, Bruno Funaro*

Robert Fischer Raniero Corbelletti
Gannett Herwig Burton Holmes
Vernon Read Hippolyte Kamenka
Howard H. Juster Anthony Daidone

VISITING ARCHITECTS, John C. B. Moore*

C. Dale Badgeley Julian C. Levi
Edgar I. Williams Leopold Arnaud
Ralph Walker Roger Halle
L. Bancel LaFarge Harold R. Sleeper
Robert Jacobs Anthony Daidone
Robert Weinberg Fred Woodbridge
Jose A. Fernandez

*denotes Chairman